

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace paragraph (05) with the following amended paragraph:

[05] MASP (Mediated Attribute Store Protocol) is comparable in form to synchronous, ASCII client-server protocols such as FTP, SMTP, NNTP, POP3 and IMAP. The syntax for each of these Internet protocols, however, is idiosyncratic and differs from the syntax of the payload. For example, SMTP/POP3 commands differ in format from the RFC-822 representation of the e-mail message payloads which they deliver/retrieve. The "dot-stuffing" operation even requires that the payload lines be altered to prevent confusion with the payload delimiter (a line with a single "." on it).